GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3057
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2000
SIKHS DENIED VISIT TO PAKISTAN FOR PILGRIMAGE
VISHNU DATT

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sikhs from Jammu and Kashmir are being denied to visit Pakistan for having Pilgrimage of their religious places in Pakistan by the Pak authorities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the Government in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI CH. VIDYA SAGAR RAO)

(a), (b) & (c): Government understand that Pakistan has denied visas to pilgrims from Jammu & Kashmir who wished to visit Pakistan as part of the Indian jathas under the bilateral Protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines, 1974.

Government believes that Pakistan`s actions are contrary to the bilateral Protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines, 1974.This matter has been taken up strongly with the Government of Pakistan.